

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Friday, October 16, 2009

Contact: Teri Pope
(770) 718-3924

NORTHEAST GEORGIANS VOLUNTEER FOR FLOOD DAMAGE ASSESSMENT DUTY IN METRO ATLANTA

GAINESVILLE — Georgia Department of Transportation District Engineer, Russell McMurry, proudly announced eight DOT Veterans volunteered to lend their expertise to the continuing flood damage assessment in Metro Atlanta.

“The men and women of Georgia DOT have responded to recent flooding with diligence and professionalism. In the 21 county Northeast Georgia region, we logged over 5,100 man hours fighting to keep our interstates and state routes open and safe for you to use. We are still sending volunteers to work in damaged areas assessing infrastructure and assisting FEMA. We will continue to use our engineering expertise to ensure your safety on our roads in design, construction and maintenance of our transportation system,” explained McMurry.

Eight DOT Engineers from Northeast Georgia have volunteered for additional flood assessment duty:

- Jesse Anderson a nine year DOT Veteran and a Construction Inspector from Oakwood
- Rhonda Brady a 13 year DOT Veteran and a Traffic Operations Engineer from Cleveland
- David Eller a 20 year DOT Veteran and a Construction Project Manager from Mount Airy
- Daniel Ferguson a 6 year DOT Veteran and an Access Management Engineer from Cornelia
- Rusty Maddox a 7 year DOT Veteran and a Construction Project Manager from Athens
- Kevin Phillips an 18 year DOT Veteran and a Construction Project Manager from Toccoa
- Chris York a 21 year DOT Veteran and a Construction Project Manager from Demorest
- Kenny Withrow a 21 year DOT Veteran and a Construction Inspector from Lavonia

“The flooding has been an incredible ordeal,” Commissioner Vance C. Smith, Jr. said following the torrential rains in metro Atlanta. “So many people have experienced complete devastation by the flood. But in the midst of this terrible storm I saw rays of hope through the hardworking men and women of the Georgia DOT, going above and beyond to ensure the safety of our citizens. We’ve got a dynamic team over here and I couldn’t be more proud of everyone at GDOT.”

The dedicated employees of the Georgia Department of Transportation will continue their repair efforts until all state roads and bridges in Georgia are repaired to the standard of excellence Georgians expect. The Department will continue to work with local governments; sharing our engineering expertise and coordinating recovery efforts.

The Georgia Department of Transportation is committed to providing a safe, seamless and sustainable transportation system that supports Georgia’s economy and is sensitive to both its citizens and its environment. Additional transportation revenues are imperative to grow and sustain Georgia’s economic vitality and quality of life through the 21st Century. Georgia is the 3rd fastest-growing state in the nation,

yet 49th in per capita spending on transportation. For general information on the Georgia DOT, please visit our Web site (www.dot.ga.gov).

###